

GEORGALAS
Serial No. 10/594,421
March 23, 2010

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figures 1-5.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet(s)

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Initially, the Examiner's attention is drawn to the concurrently filed Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and IDS fee for this stage of prosecution. Official review, consideration and citation of all such information is respectfully requested.

In response to the formality-based drawing objections, the drawings and/or specification have been amended accordingly so as to obviate stated ground of objection.

In response to the formality-based objection to claims 3 and 7, these claims have also been amended so as to obviate the stated ground for objection.

Accordingly, all outstanding formality-based issues are believed to be resolved in the Applicant's favor. Should there be any remaining formality-based issue, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned for prompt resolution.

The rejection of claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being made "obvious" based on Cugola in view of Papamarkos and Paton is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1 and 15 have been amended to introduce the feature that each computer includes code for a) loading component program code onto the computer, the component program code including one or more callable procedures, and b) storing corresponding component procedure interface information for said one or more callable procedures.

This feature is not taught in any of the three cited prior-art documents. Hence the combination of those documents cannot possibly render the claimed inventions obvious.

The advantage of storing corresponding component procedure interface information (see Fig. 4 of the application and accompanying description), is that it then becomes straightforward for the administrator or designer of a distributed application to include calls to procedures in the component with the event reaction rules stored in the computer.

The Examiner suggests that the feature of claim 2 (now incorporated in claims 7 and 15) is seen in the second paragraph of section 2.4 of Cugola which suggests the Java package `polimi.jedi.dispatcher` can be loaded onto a computer, and includes classes (programs) `RMIConnectionToED` and `SocketConnectionToED`, each of which will offer the methods listed in section 2.3 – open, close, subscribe etc.

However, Cugola teaches that those methods are invoked by an Active Object AO (another program). There is no suggestion those methods should be invoked by event rule reaction interpretation code, as Applicant's require. Also, there is no suggestion that whatever code is used to load the programs `RMIConnectionToED` and `SocketConnectionToED` on the computer should also store interface information for each of those procedures on the computer.

As to claim 3, the Examiner is reminded that "reflection code" is a term of art. It relates to an ability of a program to alter itself. A conventional Java class is unable to alter itself, and there is no suggestion in Cugola that the Active Object class is anything other than conventional in this sense.

All the claims have also been amended to replace the word "process" with "program" so as to more clearly distinguish this feature of the claims from Cugola's references to business processes.

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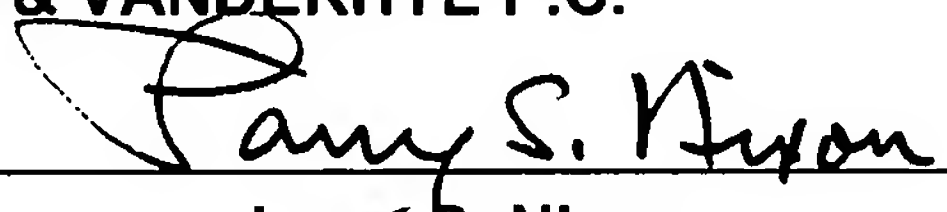
Given such fundamental deficiencies of the cited references (e.g., even if combined *arguendo*) it is not necessary at this time detail additional deficiencies of this alleged "obvious" combination of references. Suffice it to know that, as a matter of law, it is impossible to support even *prima facie* case "obviousness" unless the cited prior art at least teaches or suggest each and every feature of the rejected claims.

Accordingly, this entire application is now believed to be in allowable condition and a formal notice to that fact is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:



Larry S. Nixon
Reg. No. 25,640

LSN:brc

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100